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МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ АМНИСТИЯ
منظمة العفو الدولية
國際特赦組織

URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL **AI Index: ASA 21/38/97**

EXTRA 79/97 **Fear of torture** **2 June 1997**

EAST TIMOR

David Dias Ximenes
Joao Angelo, 32
Francisco Magno, 27
Jose Acacio, 40
Joaquim Moreira, 28
13 other men, names not known
One woman, name not known, married to Jose Acacio

Up to 19 people, including one woman, are known to have been taken into custody by the police and military authorities in East Timor in the wake of recent attacks by the armed resistance against military and police targets. Those arrested are feared to be at risk of torture or ill-treatment, particularly in view of reports that at least one is being denied access to independent legal counsel. It is not clear if the remaining detainees have access to lawyers.

David Dias Ximenes was arrested by police in Dili, the capital of East Timor, on 31 May 1997, for his alleged involvement in an attack on Mobile Police (Brimob) Headquarters on 28 May, in which four police officers were wounded. He is believed to be being held on a charge of armed rebellion, under Article 106 of the Indonesian Criminal Code. At least five others are believed to have been arrested on the same day in connection with the same attack. They are Joao Angelo from Ainaro, who was arrested in Bairo Pite in Dili, Francisco Magno from Ainaro, and Jose Acacio and his wife, whose name is not known. Another man, whose name is not known, is also believed to have been arrested in connection with the attack.

It is believed that a further three men were arrested on the day of the attack, two of whom were reported to have been wounded. Their names are not known. Ten other youths are believed to have been arrested by police in connection with an incident in Baucau on 30 May.

In Baucau on 17 May, Joaquim Moreira was arrested by officers from the Military Intelligence Unit (*Satuan Tugas Intelijen*). His whereabouts are not known, but he is believed to be in military custody.

The police authorities stated on 1 June that there were 22 people being held in custody, comprising 13 alleged members of the armed resistance, Falintil, and nine of its supporters.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In recent weeks there has been an increase in reported attacks by Falintil against military and government targets. At least 17 and possibly 34 people - including members of Falintil - were believed to have been killed during attacks in recent days including on the day of Indonesia's Parliamentary Elections, 29 May. The military authorities also claim that seven civilians were killed by Falintil in Los Palos. This report has not yet been confirmed. There are unconfirmed reports that a further 17 police were killed by the armed resistance in Baucau on 31 May.

Political detainees in East Timor are frequently at risk of torture or ill-treatment in police or military custody, particularly during interrogation. The risk of torture is increased because detainees are generally denied access to legal counsel and to their families. In addition, restrictions are placed by the Indonesian authorities on access to East Timor for independent human rights monitors.

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia or English or your own language:
- urging the authorities to establish and make public the whereabouts of all those arrested (naming some) in connection with recent alleged attacks by armed rebels in East Timor;
- seeking assurances that none of those taken into custody will be subjected to torture or ill-treatment;
- urging the authorities to allow all the detainees access to medical care, members of their families and to independent legal advisers.

APPEALS TO:

Chief of Police for East Timor
Lt Col Mucharam
Kapolda Timor Timur
Dili
East Timor (Indonesia)
Telegrams: Kapolda Timor Timur, Dili, East Timor
Salutation: Dear Lt Col Mucharam

Military Commander for Region IX/Udayana
(Covers Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and East Timor)
Major General Rivai
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana
Denpasar, Bali
Indonesia
Telegrams: Pangdam IX/Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
Salutation: Dear Major General Rivai

COPIES TO:

National Commission on Human Rights
Komisi Nasional Hak Asazi Manusia (Komnas HAM)
Alex Refialy SH
Jalan Dr Antonio de Carvelho
Dili, East Timor
(Indonesia)

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 5 July 1997.